

Message Text

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41

ACTION SNM-02

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FOR S/NM AND ARA/RPP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, PE

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE MAJOR GOP COCA REDUCTION PROGRAM

REF: LIMA 8416

1. ATTORNEY GENERAL NELSON DIAZ POMAR AND ACTING DCM (EMBASSY NARCOTICS COORDINATOR) HAVE KEPT IN TOUCH CONCERNING NEXT STEPS IN A POSSIBLE MAJOR GOP COCA REDUCTION PROGRAM. DIAZ POMAR HOPES THIS WEEK TO OBTAIN GOP DECISION TO ESTABLISH A COMMITTEE TO REVIEW EXISTING STUDIES ON THE COCA PROBLEM IN PERU. COMMITTEE WOULD BE CHAIRED BY THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD, COMMERCE, INTERIOR, EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY. DIAZ POMAR HOPES THE GOP WILL SET A DEADLINE OF 60-90 DAYS FOR COMPLETION OF THIS INITIAL STUDY PHASE.

2. ONCE THE ABOVE STUDY COMMITTEE PRESENTS ITS REPORT, DIAZ POMAR PROPOSES TO SEEK ESTABLISHMENT BY PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ OF A SMALL, HIGH-LEVEL GOP COMMISSION TO PREPARE, DIRECT AND COORDINATE A COCA REDUCTION PLAN. AT SOME POINT IN THIS PHASE OF THE PROJECT, DIAZ POMAR BELIEVES IT WOULD BE VALUABLE TO HAVE A VISIT FROM U.S. EXPERTS.

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3. DIAZ POMAR IS ALSO INTERESTED IN PUSHING AHEAD ON HIS PROPOSAL

FOR AN ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL. HE FIRST PROPOSED
EITHER TO VISIT OR TO WRITE THE OTHER
MEMBERS OF THE PROPOSED ORGANIZATION AND TO ESTABLISH IT.
SINCE THE PROPOSAL INVOLVES
SUBSTANTIAL U.S. FINANCING, HOWEVER, DIAZ POMAR AGREED THAT FOR
THE TIME BEING HE SHOULD ONLY WRITE HIS OPPOSITE NUMBERS TO IN-
QUIRE WHETHER THEY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN FORMING AN ASSOCIATION
(LIMA 7879, PARAGRAPH 14C).

4. EMBASSY SUPPORTS THE IDEA OF AN ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS
GENERAL ALONG THE LINES DIAZ POMAR PROPOSES.
HOWEVER, WE WISH TO AVOID SIPHONING OFF DIAZ POMAR'S
ENERGIES AND TIME TO THIS PROPOSAL AT
THE EXPENSE OF A COCA REDUCTION PLAN
HERE IN PERU. WE BELIEVE THE USG SHOULD AGREE TO FUND PART OF
THE COST OF SUCH AN ASSOCIATION ONLY AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF AN
OVERALL REDUCTION PLAN.

5. DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE SEEN BUENOS AIRES 5814 SUGGESTING THAT THE
ARGENTINE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHOULD BE INVITED TO BECOME A MEMBER OF
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ASSOCIATION. EMBASSY HAS NO OBJECTION,
UND OUR INFORMAL EXPLORATIONS OF THIS IDEA WITH DIAZ POMAR INDICATE
HE HAS NONE EITHER. DIAZ POMAR STATES, HOWEVER, THAT THE
PROPOSED MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION WAS THE SUBJECT OF A
CONVERSATION BETWEEN U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL LEVI AND HIMSELF.
DIAZ POMAR UNDERSTOOD GENERAL LEVI TO FAVOR AN ASSOCIATION OF
ATTORNEYS GENERAL OF THE COCA AND COCAINE PRODUCING, AND TRANSIT
AND CONSUMPTION COUNTRIES; THAT IS, FROM BOLIVIA NORTH.
WASHINGTON PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER WE SHOULD FORMALLY SUGGEST THE
ARGENTINE ATTORNEY GENERAL AS A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION.
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